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Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Letter dated 27 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the statement issued on 22 June 2000 by the Ministry of External Relations on the resumption of attacks on various areas in the Sudan by the rebel movement, the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A).

This resumption of attacks presents yet another salient proof of the rebel movement's total disregard for world public opinion with respect to its call for enabling the humanitarian agencies and organizations to deliver relief assistance to the needy people in those areas. It also constitutes total disrespect of the appreciation you have expressed for the declaration of the Government on 29 April 2000 of a ceasefire throughout the Sudan and the trust you have expressed in the SPLM/A extending this humanitarian ceasefire so as to contribute to the creation of an enabling environment for humanitarian operations in the country.

I should like to assure you of my Government's pledge to continue to exert all possible efforts towards the realization of a lasting peace despite all the difficulties and obstacles, while it reserves its right to repulse such attacks launched by the rebel movement in conformity with its duties and obligations for the protection of the lives and property of its citizens.

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its attachment as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 20 (b).

(*Signed*) Elfatih **Erwa**
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 27 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic and English]

Statement by the Ministry of External Relations on the rebel movement's resumption of attacks on various areas in the south

1. Once again the rebel movement has resumed its breaching of the ceasefire, which it declared on 8 May 2000, by launching attacks on various parts of (great) Bahr Elghazal State where it attacked Gogrial, Aweil and Kuajine on Tuesday, 20 June, and on Wednesday, 21 June 2000. The Government forces were compelled to retaliate and drive away the attacking forces in protection of the lives and property of the citizens.

2. This behaviour comes as salient proof of the movement's disregard for world public opinion, and confirms its disrespect for its declaration of a ceasefire for humanitarian reasons, to enable non-governmental and international organizations to deliver relief assistance to the needy people in those areas.

3. Once more the Ministry of External Relations would like to draw attention to the movement's lack of seriousness about its declarations and its attempt to realize a military victory that could strengthen its negotiating position. It is for that reason that the assaults have coincided with its announcement to return to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) talks.

4. The Government of the Sudan once again calls upon the world community, IGAD member countries, the IGAD partners forum and all the forces supporting the rebel movement to condemn and decry the irresponsible behaviour of the movement, which it has continued to exercise in an unprecedented ploy and disregard of the calls of the world community.

5. The Government of the Sudan reiterates that it reserves its right to repulse the attacks launched by the rebel movement, without affecting its unreserved commitment to the declared ceasefire and its pledge to work towards realizing a lasting peace despite all the difficulties and obstacles.